

# Wood Makes People Big as Cars



The Austrian civil engineer Hermann Knoflacher developed the Gehzeug, or walkmobile, in 1975 to allow a pedestrian to approximate the amount of space taken by a motorist. It is ideal for protesting against the primacy given to automobiles in the city, or just taking a walk in traffic. Knoflacher's experiment has been repeated in cities from Austria to Thailand, illustrating the spatial possibilities of urban areas without automobiles.

Hermann Knoflacher is a transportation engineer in Vienna. He has been the director of the Institute for Transport Planning and Traffic Engineering at the Technical University of Vienna since 1985.

**Actors:** Hermann Knoflacher / **Location:** Vienna, Austria; internationally; since 1975 **Tools:** Wooden frame, rope, and safety tape / [Walking](#) / [Plan Smarter](#)

<http://cca-actions.org/actions/wood-makes-people-big-cars>

*Actions: What You Can Do With the City* presents [99 actions](#) that instigate positive change in contemporary cities around the world.

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